



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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10 MAY 1966

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1. Communist China

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The Chinese clearly felt obliged to display Mao Tse-tung for their Albanian allies. Failure to do so would have come close to admitting the foreign rumors that Mao was no longer a significant factor in Chinese affairs.

Mao's return, after being completely out of sight for six months, coincides with signs of a serious struggle within the party. There was a highly unusual attack by one party newspaper against another. The one attacked, which immediately published an abject confession, is the organ of the Peking city party committee.

It is not certain that the matter will end there. The serious charges raised against a group of municipal party officials could ultimately extend to even higher officials.

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3. Vietnam

Peking seems worried about the possibility of US retaliatory air action against targets in China as a result of the MIG incident over North Vietnam on Sunday.

The Chinese waited until yesterday to broadcast a number of tough remarks which Chou En-lai had made during an interview with a Pakistani newsman in early April. The interview was published in Pakistan two weeks ago, but received no previous publicity in China.

Chou's remarks repeated the old warnings that once war had broken out between the US and China it would "have no boundaries." He suggested that such a war could be started by US "air or sea action," and then noted "if you come from the sky, why can't we fight back on the ground?"

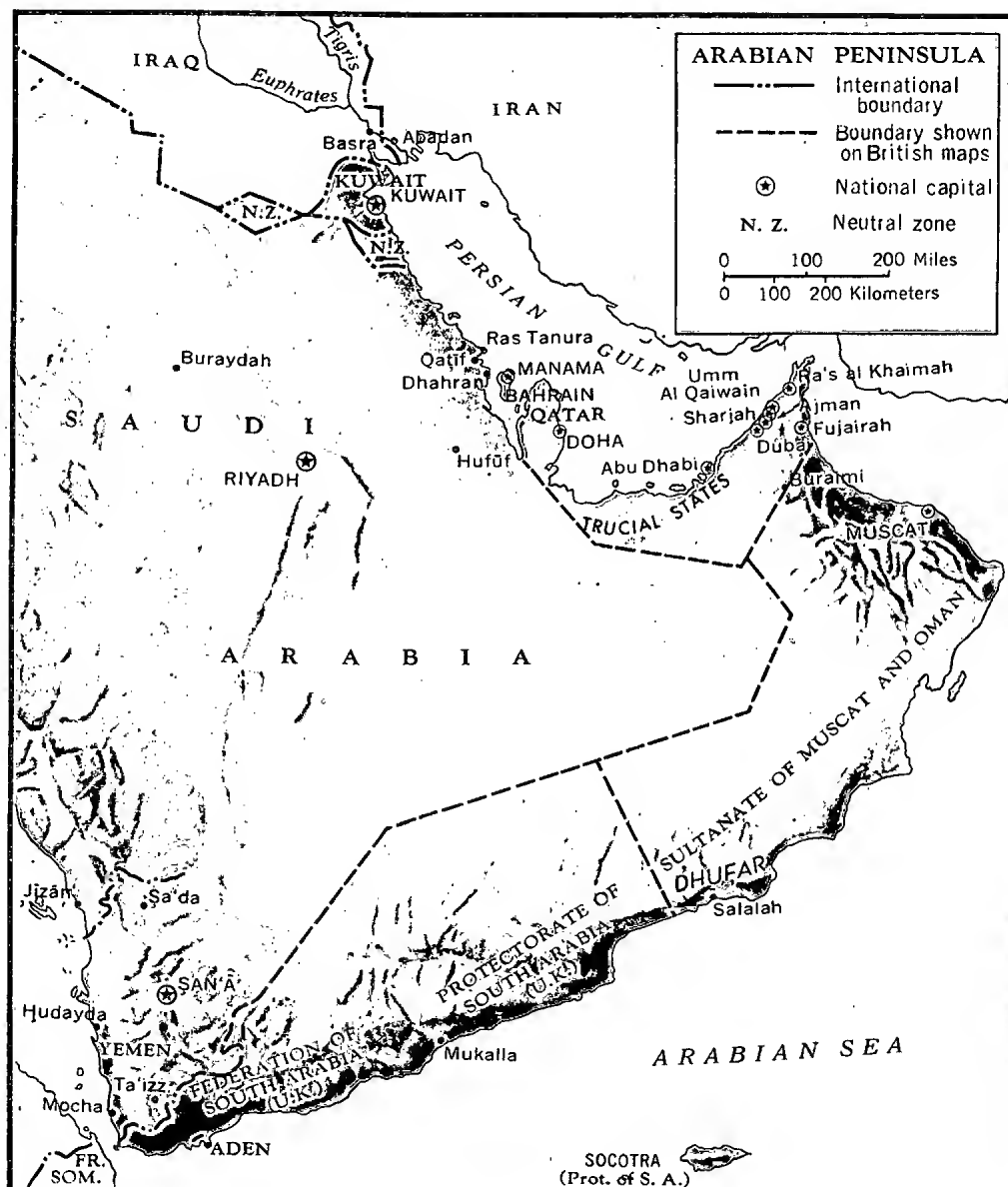
Chou again asserted that China would not take the initiative to provoke hostilities but was fully prepared to defend itself and would certainly defeat any invading force.

4. North Vietnam

Total North Vietnamese strength in the South now numbers some 26,000. Suspect units, if authenticated, could raise this figure to about 40,000.

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5. Pakistan

Ayub has reiterated his determination to expand Pakistan's military strength in the face of India's continuing arms build-up. He told Ambassador McConaughy recently that if Pakistan continues unable to procure lethal weapons from the US, it will be necessary to turn "even to the Devil himself."

Chinese military assistance to Pakistan has thus far included small arms, artillery, tanks, and a number of MIG-19 fighters.

6. Israel

Fighting erupted again late today at a point on the Israeli-Jordanian border. The Israelis admit they have so far suffered one fatality. The presently heightened sensitivities on both sides increases the danger of a heavier than usual engagement this time.

7. Persian Gulf Area

British influence in the area is under increasing challenge from Egyptian-backed nationalists.

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8. Chile

Public indignation against the scheduled French nuclear tests in the Pacific is becoming so strong that the Chilean Government is being forced to consider more drastic action than the two protests it has recently made to the French ambassador.

The government is now seeking a meeting of foreign ministers of the South American Pacific coast states. It also hopes to obtain a United Nations investigation of the risk of radiation damage to South America.

9. Rumania

Brezhnev's arrival in Bucharest today suggests, in part, a Soviet effort to point out to the Rumanians their narrowing room for maneuver between Moscow and Peking.

Press reports say Brezhnev is being accompanied by a Soviet specialist in relations with ruling Asian Communist parties. With a particular eye to Chou En-lai's impending trip to Rumania later this month, the Russians are sure to try to obtain greater Rumanian backing for their position in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

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